

MONTHLY NOTES  
OF THE  
**Library Association**  
of the United Kingdom.

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**Contents:**—Official Notices—April Monthly Meeting: Adjourned Discussion on Mr. Thomas's Paper, "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum"—Lectures at the Liverpool Public Library—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies—Notes and Queries—Correspondence.

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THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, May 5th, 1882, at 8 p.m., when a Paper will be read by Mr. Andrew Taylor, Treasurer of the Edinburgh Select Subscription Library, entitled "Present Day Limits to Public Subscription Libraries."

The following letter has been received from the Bodleian Librarian, in reply to the congratulatory resolution passed at the March Monthly Meeting of the Association, on the occasion of his appointment:—

LONDON INSTITUTION, 19th March, 1882.

MY DEAR THOMAS,—I have received your letter informing me of the congratulations voted to me by the Library Association, at its last Monthly Meeting, and I beg you to convey to the Association, at its next Monthly Meeting, my sincere thanks and my assurance of the great pleasure which its resolution has given me.

Very truly yours,  
EDWARD B. NICHOLSON.

The following correction should be made in the List of Members issued with the January number:—Count Balzani's address is now 11, Via dei Mille, Rome.

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APRIL MONTHLY MEETING.

The seventh Monthly Meeting of the fifth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Thursday, April 6th, at 8 p.m., Mr. W. H. OVERALL in the chair.

The minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, the following New Member was announced as having joined the Association: Mr. Charles Vernon Kirby, Assistant in the Free Public Library, Leeds. The following gentlemen were proposed and seconded for election at the next Monthly Meeting: Mr. James Dauber, Mus.B., Wigan; Mr. J. P. Edmonds, 64, Bonaccord Street, Aberdeen.

It was announced that a letter had been received from Mr. E. B. Nicholson, acknowledging the resolution passed at the last Monthly Meeting. The letter will be found on another page.

The Adjourned Discussion on Mr. Ernest C. Thomas's Paper, entitled

PROFESSOR DZIATKO ON THE BRITISH MUSEUM,

was then taken, and

Mr. THOMAS read a letter which he had received from Professor DZIATKO, dated Breslau, April 2, as follows:

I beg you to submit the following answer to the address of Mr. Henry Stevens to my colleagues at the next meeting of the Library Association. I hope that it may be printed also in the next number of the NOTES as fully as the observations of Mr. Stevens.

Ad 1. Mr. Stevens controverts the view that I deplore the want of a strictly systematic arrangement of the books "on the shelves." I write on the contrary, at S. 360 of my article in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*:

"... ich will mich nicht auf den alten Streit einlassen, ob für eine Bibliothek eine streng systematische oder eine auf praktische Rücksichten . . . gegründete Aufstellung der Bücher vorzuziehen sei. Unter Verhältnissen, wie sie das Britische Museum bietet, . . . wird das dort eingeführte System der Bücheraufstellung sich als ausreichend erweisen." \* Has Mr. Stevens himself read and understood my article?

Ad 2. Mr. Stevens is certainly quite right in saying that the first requirement for a library is an Alphabetical Catalogue, and I have never said anything else. On the other hand, it appeared to me, as well as to others (S. 370 f.), that the printing of the Alphabetical Catalogue, in whole or in part, is of less importance than the preparation of a Systematic Catalogue.

Ad 5. As to the plan of a printed Catalogue of English Literature to 1640, I have given the same account at S. 370 as Mr. Stevens has given at p. 32; and the further information contained in my Note 2 at that place was, as there stated, taken from an

\* I leave these words in the original, as Professor Dziatko, who writes, of course, in German, has not quoted my version of the passage, which ran: "He declines to go into the old controversy, whether, in arranging the books themselves, the preference is to be given to a strictly systematic distribution, or a distribution based upon merely practical considerations, such as those of space, and so on. In the case of such enormous libraries as that of the Museum, the system actually adopted at the Museum may prove sufficient." *May*, in this last sentence, should no doubt be *will*.—E. C. T.

article in the *Academy* for 1881 (vol. i., p. 280 f.), written by Mr. William E. A. Axon, and entitled "The Printed Catalogue of the *British Museum*." It is not I, therefore, who have confounded "the Society of Arts' scheme of a Universal Catalogue with the printing plans of the Museum," but, on the contrary, Mr. Stevens has carelessly read or misunderstood my remarks.

Note 6 contains nothing inconsistent with what I have said at S. 371 f. Not only the amounts of £10,000, and of £200—£500 for book-purchases should have been compared, but also the number of officials employed. I should like to ask, also, what German Libraries has Mr. Stevens in view? For, in the case of Breslau, I have expressly said, at S. 366, that the sum of 10,000 marks (equal to £500) is only *half* of the sum to be spent in books and binding.

Ad 7. My remarks upon the Reference Library rest, not only upon the printed Catalogue of 1871, but also upon my observations of 1878 (S. 372). That the particular instances quoted from the Catalogue of 1871 apply equally to the year 1878, and even to the present time, we learn from Mr. Stevens himself. That since 1878 the new administration has been improving the Reference Library I have not failed to point out (S. 372). It is singular that Mr. Stevens has not been led, by my remarks at S. 372, to inform himself more accurately as to the two editions of Pauly's "Real-Encyclopädie." Only the *first* volume of the old edition of 1837 was re-edited as being out of date, and appeared in two parts in 1864 and 1866. No continuation of this new edition has appeared—and was, moreover, not intended. And yet Mr. Stevens says (p. 33): "The substitution of Pauly's new edition of Volume I of his 'Real-Encyclopädie' would render both editions in this catalogue incomplete." He does not appear to be better informed as to Engelmann's "Bibliotheca Classica" of 1880, of which as yet only the first part has appeared, embracing the Greek authors.

Ad 8. What Mr. Stevens says as to the collection of bibliographical aids (which, while it deserves our best acknowledgments, does not replace a systematic catalogue) is disposed of by his own admissions in his second note.

Ad 9. The information supplied as to the plan of a Supplemental Reading-room does not refute, but confirms, my remark on S. 371.

Ad 10. In order to make the number of his notes more imposing, Mr. Stevens has taken up an idea which did not appear at all in my article in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, but was only casually expressed in a letter to Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, and has treated it as an attack upon the Museum administration. I expressly declared the object of my suggestion to be the economy of labour in institutions generally, and have never doubted that the British Museum has long preserved, with great completeness, particulars as to the use of its books.

Ad 11. My cursory remark as to a supposed principle of Mr. Winter Jones's administration is, of course, not a matter for discussion.

As Note 12 is of the nature of a general observation, and, at all events, has no reference to any particular or general remarks in my article, the only essential point of difference remaining between Mr. Stevens and myself is, the construction of the Alphabetical Catalogue, which is discussed in Notes 3 and 4. Here I must, first of all, make clear a misunderstanding on the part of Mr. Stevens. When I described as defective (S. 362) the way in which works without particular authors are alphabetically entered in the Museum Catalogue, and adduced Periodical Publications as an illustration, I was dealing with the question, under what catch-word works such as "*Geographisches Jahrbuch*," "*Zeitschrift für Völkerpsychologie*," "*Annales des Sciences Naturelles*," &c., and also non-periodical works, such as Pauly's "*Real-Encyclopädie*," can best be arranged in an Alphabetical Catalogue, and can most surely be found by those persons—and it is only for such persons that an Alphabetical Catalogue is principally intended—who are already acquainted with the titles of such works in their current form. Now, it is my conviction that the French and German bibliographers are right in entering such works under the chief word of the title ("*Jahrbuch*," "*Zeitschrift*," "*Annales*," &c.); while the further arrangement of all works with similar names is regulated by the further indications contained in the title. In the same way, the works of different individual authors upon the same subject appear in different places in the Alphabetical Catalogues, according as the author is called White or Black, and so on; and authors of the same name are further arranged under their forenames and designations, without any regard to coherency of subject. And it is, of course, further desirable, in the case of names of well-known editors of periodical publications or collective works, such as J. C. Poggendorf, Benj. Silliman, Aug. Pauly, and so on, to supply references under their names. Such a principle seems to me to be anything rather than scholastic, but, in fact, to be theoretically correct, and at the same time pre-eminently practical. But at the British Museum periodical works are not catalogued according to their titles, but are collected in thirty-eight volumes, under the catchword "*Periodical Publications*," and therefore under a factitious subject catchword. Within this, again, they are arranged from another subject point of view—the name of the place of publication. A very happily chosen principle! Who amongst my English colleagues—to say nothing of the simple users of the Reading-room—would undertake to name with certainty the place of publication of even the smallest fraction of all the periodical literature of the past and present? Who can tell straight off that the *Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache*, the organ of Lepsius in Berlin, is published at Leipzig; or that the *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie*, formerly the organ of the philologists of Bonn, appears at Frankfort-on-the-Maine? There can be no doubt that the thirty-eight volumes of Periodical Publications are *only* of use by means of the twelve index volumes. Can that, however, be called a safe guide which only by a circuitous route leads the reader to his destination—i.e. the

knowledge of the press-mark, and which itself to a certain extent requires the index as a guide? It was an error, which I regret, when I said (S. 362) that the periodical literature in the main catalogue is not entered under the distinguishing names. According to Mr. Stevens this is the case.\* At all events, the reader only finds from these entries that the periodical he is seeking is in the library, while further particulars, and particularly the press-mark, must be sought elsewhere.

Another question, upon which I did not touch at all, has reference to what Mr. Stevens says in Note 3. When in a catalogue the titles are not only arranged alphabetically under authors' names, &c., but, in addition, fully or partially indicated under one or several subject headings, as is the case with several very recent American bibliographies, this is, so to speak, a work of supererogation on the part of the alphabetical catalogue. With regard to the subject headings selected, such a catalogue offered what we expect from a systematic catalogue. But these portions of the alphabetical catalogue become superfluous as soon as the library possesses a good classed catalogue of its contents. I do not, therefore, wish in the slightest degree to depreciate the triumph which the Museum catalogue has won by its "CAESAR" and "FREDERICK" collections, or others of its articles, but nevertheless I maintain that the Museum could have brought together the same and a still greater collection of works upon these subjects from a good systematic catalogue; and besides this, anyone who is occupied with Frederick, for example, would find in immediate connection with the literature about him also the literature of the immediately preceding and succeeding age, of Prussian history generally, and so on.

Of all, then, that Mr. Stevens has led into the field against me, very little turns out to be well founded: strictly speaking, only one point—in regard to the cross-references for periodical literature in the main catalogue. When again, at S. 360, I spoke of the number of volumes of the new Alphabetical Catalogue as 1,457, while Mr. Stevens (p. 28) calls them nearly 3,000, I relied upon the List of the Books of Reference of 1871, as I had no later authentic data. Mr. Axon also, in the *Academy* (1881), speaks of more than 2,000 volumes.† Even Mr. Stevens has shown too many weak places, and at pp. 28 and 32, proves himself to be so inadequately informed as to the condition of German libraries, that he would have done well very considerably to moderate the tone of his polemic.

I conclude with the expression of my conviction that no one who read my article in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, without prejudice, can possibly retain the impression under which Mr. Stevens has

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attacked my few criticisms. I have repeatedly in such warm terms expressed my honest admiration of this magnificent institution. That when I wished to give my fellow-countrymen an insight into the management and administration of this, in many respects, unique institution, I also allowed myself the freedom of pointing out what appeared to me capable of improvement, ought not to be taken amiss. An institution founded and constructed from so high a standpoint must also be judged by the highest standard.

I am, &c.,

CARL DZIATZKO.

DR. SELIGMANN said that he had intended, not at all as a German, but as an honorary member of the Association, to offer a few remarks on the subject, which was now for the third time an order of the day. After Professor Dziatzko's elaborate answer to Mr. Stevens, he would confine himself to opposing Mr. Stevens's resolution. Professor Dziatzko's article was fair, and while he paid due respect to his colleagues at the British Museum he had expressed his convictions as a librarian and a scholar, and had never dreamt that anyone could take offence at what he had written. Mr. Stevens differed on very many points from Professor Dziatzko, and had subjected his paper to an elaborate criticism. To this none could object, but when Mr. Stevens came and asked the members to give him a verdict against Professor Dziatzko, he quite forgot that he was thus aiming at the root of the Association's existence. It had been formed to discuss library matters, and not to adopt resolutions which would virtually shut the mouths of the members. And if the resolution was adopted, did anyone suppose that the matter would rest there? Scientific and academic questions were not to be disposed of by such resolutions. It had not availed that Urban VIII., and his congregation of cardinals, monks, and mathematicians, had adopted a resolution condemning Galileo's idea of the rotation of the earth. To the present day, we still say with Galileo, 'E pur si muove.' If Professor Dziatzko's paper was voted to be based on false information, although the writer had informed himself on the spot with his own eyes, and without prejudice, that was the very way to make Professor Dziatzko's statements to be accepted as a dogma, not in Germany only, but elsewhere. Whether it was wise to write this particular article was another question. The speaker, if he might be permitted to speak of himself, had taken another course, and, although his views on the Museum were on record, he had always avoided saying anything of the Museum in public which he thought the officers would not like. The principle of the Association, however, was discussion, and so national an institution as the Museum necessarily came within the sphere of their discussions. Professor Dziatzko's standing as librarian and scholar, and his thoroughly friendly attitude to the Museum, undoubtedly gave him a claim to be heard, and he ought not to be put on his trial by such a resolution. It was true that many improvements had taken place since Prof. Dziatzko was here, and Mr.



Porter particularly was always very anxious to satisfy the requirements of the day. But if the authorities supposed that everything at the Museum was perfect, they were mistaken; the millennium of their work, independently of financial questions, had yet to come. Mr. Stevens had mentioned as a "triumph" of Sir Antonio Panizzi, that he had been able to bring out the full bibliography of Frederick the Great, but that was surely a triumph which every well-regulated library should achieve without any record. As the name of the great king had been mentioned, the speaker might mention an anecdote of him. One day he passed a house and saw a libel upon himself placed very high upon it, on which he said, "Please hang it a little lower, that everyone may read it." His example, however, was not followed everywhere. Mr. Stevens had claimed the merit of impartiality and neutrality, and that from a peculiar point of view, a national one. The speaker thought that they did not ask of what nation a man is so long as his views were thorough and conscientious. They inquired into the merits of Prof. Dizatzko's paper and Mr. Stevens's reply, and they easily discovered the true motives as well as the relations of the Professor and Mr. Stevens respectively to the Museum. One point he would correct in Mr. Stevens's criticism. He spoke of "privileged readers" in Germany. The speaker could assure them that in no country in the world, England included, were instruction and the aids to instruction afforded by libraries cheaper or more freely open to everyone than in Germany. They did object, indeed, to those persons who make reading-rooms their abode, for they had no other, who never repaid the nation by working for their own good, but who prevented others from working, and were a great nuisance. To such readers he was sure that Mr. Stevens would object. In conclusion, he hoped the motion would be withdrawn.

Mr. HARRISON thought that the resolution had better not be put. The frankness with which Professor Dziatzko had spoken should not be taken as an offence. He was glad this discussion had taken place, and thought that enough had been done by setting our views in answer to Professor Dziatzko in print in the MONTHLY NOTES.

Mr. WELCH thought there was some misunderstanding on the matter. The importance of it consisted in the appearance of the paper in MONTHLY NOTES, where it looked like criticism of the Association on the working of the Museum. We had never had any reflections on a particular library, and it was unfortunate that the paper had been printed. He thought that the resolution should be carried.

Mr. BRACE pointed out that the paper appearing in our organ had been seen by many persons who otherwise would not have seen it. Many of the statements made by the Professor were true when the paper was written, but were not true now. At the same time he should like to see the form of the resolution altered.

Mr. TEDDER again had to regret the absence of any representative of the British Museum, a fact which was the only noteworthy incident in these proceedings. Every member of our

Association was proud of the Museum, of its excellent management, and of its able and courteous officials; and this was the reason why we should be ready to discuss any observations, and more especially those of a distinguished foreigner, on that institution in an amicable and impartial manner. There were few libraries more closely approaching perfection than that of the British Museum, but then it had not yet reached the last and ideal stage of existence, and its most devoted champion would not venture to assert that it was incapable of improvement, nor had any bibliothecal Pangloss yet arisen to say that it was "la meilleure des bibliothèques possibles." The Museum had, however, found an excellent advocate in Mr. Stevens, whose knowledge of its history and working was equalled by few; and although his somewhat over-eloquent and ornate periods might neither instruct nor persuade his listeners, they could not fail to interest them. He repeated at great length some well-known facts which have never been denied, and the letter of Professor Dziatzko read this evening dealt very fully with all contested questions. Nothing could be more generous than Professor Dziatzko's just praise of our national library, and the few points on which he had made suggestions were not, in the speaker's opinion, dealt with at all by Mr. Stevens. These matters were: 1. The want of a subject-catalogue; 2. The late supply of current periodical literature (it seems this defect is felt, and will be remedied by the projected periodical-room); 3. The late supply of new, and especially foreign books; 4. The necessity of a revision of the reference-library. Professor Dziatzko deserved great credit for his important monograph and weighty professional remarks, and Mr. Thomas had done good service in bringing the critical portions of the paper before those members who are not acquainted with German—the historical and descriptive part being already familiar to them. In an occasional note in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of March 16 occur these words: "The paper of this foreign visitor shows such an appreciation of the value and defects of the Museum library that an abstract of his opinions should not be confined to the journal of a few specialists." The latter observation is not very flattering towards us, but the note shows what is thought of the matter by an outside critic. The paper had been very amply discussed, and it would be a very unfortunate conclusion to arrive at, if Mr. Stevens' resolution were carried. It would please nobody and irritate everyone else. Few could care to vote for it, and no one would wish to vote against it. The speaker sincerely hoped Mr. Stevens would see the propriety of withdrawing his resolution; otherwise he should feel bound to move the previous question.

Mr. DOUTHWAITE was ready to second the previous question, though he hoped it would not be necessary.

Mr. OVERALL pointed out that, in the original article, Professor Dziatzko was writing for his colleagues in Germany. The paper appeared to the speaker to be by no means unfriendly. Many of the defects indicated had already been corrected, and, to that extent, the paper fell to the ground. On the other hand, the Professor

highly complimented the Museum. We must all admit that a subject catalogue would be very desirable if it could be had.

Mr. THOMAS observed that the word "objections," which figured in the resolution, was not taken from Professor Dziatzko, and he must say that it was entirely owing to Mr. Stevens that the discussion had taken a somewhat polemical turn. The Professor's article was anything rather than the attack upon the Museum which it had been attempted to make it out. What was said of the catalogue was said in passing in the expository portion of the paper. The Professor's formal suggestions began only at the foot of page 11 of the translation. They were four in number, and the speaker did not see how they could be disposed of by the resolution. It should be remembered that, at all events, the first three of them were not criticisms of what the Museum professed to do already, but rather suggestions as to future progress, and no one, therefore, could fairly take offence at them. The responsibility for publishing the translation must be shared by every member present at the February meeting, including Mr. Stevens himself, for it was unanimously agreed, after hearing the paper, that it was proper to be published in MONTHLY NOTES. The speaker, indeed, did not think that the publication required any defence. The article had been already published in Germany, and he was unable to see that there could be a more appropriate subject for discussion by our Association than the views of a competent observer upon the aims and methods of our National Library.

Mr. STEVENS said that, although he by no means backed down from the chief statements in his speech, and, after hearing the Professor's reply and explanations, found nothing, or very little, to modify, he was ready, in deference to the feelings of some of his colleagues, to withdraw his resolution. At the same time he thought that, as an unfortunate impression had been produced by taking out only the critical portions of the paper, it was very desirable that the article should be published as a whole.

Motion accordingly withdrawn.

The meeting then adjourned.

#### LECTURES AT THE LIVERPOOL PUBLIC LIBRARY.

For a period of seventeen years the Free Library Committee of Liverpool have been accustomed to have delivered, during three months in the winter, a course of free popular lectures in the lecture-hall of the Brown Library and Museum. These lectures are largely intended to attract non-scientific people and the somewhat illiterate rather than the educated. The Liverpool Free Library, it must be premised, is established under a local Act, which, though differing very little from the general Act, contains, however, a section permitting the Committee to have lectures given, and, if necessary, to make a charge for admittance, provided that, in case any surplus remains after paying expenses, it goes to the credit of the library rate.

Notwithstanding this power given by the Act, the Committee have never exercised it, but have always given the lectures entirely free. In this course they have felt fully encouraged by the class of people who regularly attended them—a class unmistakably of mechanics and unskilled labourers, to whom the exaction of a payment for admittance, however small, would have proved a hindrance, if not a prohibition to their attendance. It will be admitted that there are many people who, through want of education, are unequal to the mental effort of sustained reading; but who are nevertheless of an inquiring disposition, and take great pleasure in seeing experiments of a useful and practical kind. To these the popular lecture is a great attraction; and even the inveterate novel reader is found to be allured by the announcement of an accompanying exhibition of diagrams to the lecture, or illustrations by means of the oxy-hydrogen light—or, in more popular phrase, the magic lantern. These lectures have grown so popular during the last few years, that the small lecture-hall of the Brown library, which did not hold when crowded more than 450 people, was frequently filled to overflowing long before the lecture began, so that numbers (computed at several hundreds at times) had to go away unable to gain admittance.

Under these circumstances, and with the full conviction that they were acting wisely and well, the Library Committee applied themselves to the task of improving the accommodation. In October, 1879, the extension of the old library, now known so well as the Picton Reading-room, in honour of Sir James A. Picton, who has been Chairman of the Institution some thirty years, was finished and opened. This room is circular, and has a diameter of one hundred feet. It was at one time contemplated to make the basement area beneath into an aquarium, and active steps were taken to carry out the idea; but second thoughts, often said to be best, decided the Committee in favour of a new lecture-hall. This has been carried out in a most able and successful manner by their architect, Mr. C. Sherlock; and on the 3rd of January of this present year it was opened by an inaugural lecture, delivered by Sir James Picton. The hall is circular, after the form of the room above, and is of corresponding diameter. It is without any obstruction of any kind in the way of pillars, the supports for the floor of the Picton reading-room above consisting of a number of iron girders, or immense brackets, so to speak, which spring from the wall and meet in the centre. Whether it is unique in construction it is difficult to say without greater inquiry; but it is certainly uncommon and ingenious. The whole of this lecture theatre, which is 28 feet in height in the centre, was excavated out of the solid rock. During its formation, as tier upon tier of roughly-hewn seats appeared, cut out of the same primitive material, it became strongly suggestive, in a small way, of the Colosseum at Rome, and many were the remarks to that effect. But, if it was faintly suggestive of the great Roman building and its world-famed games, it was strongly suggestive of a local place of amusement in days gone by devoted

to the popular English game of cock-fighting; for here were seen, when the excavations were commenced, the remains of what an advertisement in one of the earliest Liverpool newspapers refers to as the New Cock-pit near the Infirmary, "where a main of cocks will be fought between the gentlemen of Liverpool and Warrington for five pounds a battle and fifty pounds the odd one." Those who know the pile of buildings which stand in William Brown Street, devoted to literature, science and art, must say with truth that Liverpool is now carrying on a worthier game and waging a nobler battle than was conducted on the same site a hundred years ago. The success which has attended the opening of the new lecture-hall has been beyond all expectation, for while the average attendance during the whole course last year in the old lecture-hall was only 350, this year it has been 1,030; this number, it may be added, the hall will hold comfortably, but 1,500 can be accommodated without material inconvenience. To illustrate the general character of these lectures it will be enough to quote from the syllabus the titles, &c., of the first dozen, though many of the forty of which the course consisted were more calculated to appeal to the popular mind, as was shown by the attendance of above 1,700 people at each of the lectures on Bach and Mendelssohn, which were illustrated by vocal and instrumental music.

"Our Municipal Institutions: Their Past and Future," by Sir James A. Picton, J.P., F.S.A.—"Animal Defences," with Illustrative Drawings, by Rev. H. H. Higgins, M.A.—"Universities, Old and New," by Mr. G. H. Rendall, M.A., Principal of University College, Liverpool.—"The Basque Provinces of Spain: Their History, Institutions, and Laws," by Mr. Clements R. Markham, C.B., F.R.S., Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society.—"The Practical Application of some of Faraday's Discoveries," illustrated by Experiments, by Dr. Oliver J. Lodge, Professor of Physics and Mathematics, University College, Liverpool.—"Elocution," illustrated by Recitals and Readings, by Mr. Henry Vandenhoff.—"Sketches of the Public and Private Character of Edmund Burke," by Mr. J. MacCunn, M.A., Professor of Logic, Political Economy, &c., University College, Liverpool.—"Our Iron-clad Fleet and its Guns," illustrated by the Oxy-hydrogen Light, by Captain Edward Stubbs, R.N.—"Chemical Force," with Experiments, by Mr. E. Davies, F.C.S., F.I.C.—"Elocution, Gesture, &c.," illustrated by Recitals and Readings, by Mr. Henry Vandenhoff.—"John Howard, the Prison Philanthropist," by Rev. J. Burbidge.—"On the History of the Jews in Spain and Portugal: Their Persecution and Expulsion," by Rev. William Stern, Ph.D.

While so much is being done for the comparatively uneducated classes, it must not be supposed that nothing is done for those who are better educated, though it may be that, in many cases, their purses are no better filled. For the purpose of combining thoroughness with utility, a course of lectures, usually twelve, have been for some years given free in the Autumn in connection with the Cambridge University higher education scheme, but wholly at the expense of the Library Committee. There have been two consecutive courses on Political Economy, and two on English Literature; and several shorter courses, but not in connection with Cambridge, on Chemistry. At the end of each course on Political Economy and English Literature an examination

followed, conducted by the University, for the benefit of those students who chose to have such a test applied to their work and studies, and who were ambitious to receive the certificate of proficiency which was awarded to those who were successful in getting the requisite number of marks. The number of students who thus entered, both male and female, and the marks which a very large percentage of them gained, have been equally gratifying, if not more so, than the success of the popular lectures. At present, the Public Free Libraries Act does not empower Library Committees to pay for lectures out of the Library rate; but the results at Liverpool are conclusively such as to make it an important consideration how far Library Committees should have the power, in any future amended Bill, to work in this direction for the common weal, should they choose to do so; and it is to be hoped that the clause proposed by Sir James Picton to this effect in the new Free Libraries Bill drafted at Manchester, coupled with the power to make a small charge if necessary, will receive the approval of the Legislature.

P. C.

#### LIBRARY NOTES.

ASHTON.—The formal opening of the new Free Public Library took place on Saturday, March 25. The opening ceremony was performed by the Mayoress, Mrs. Andrew, who is the niece of the late Mr. George Heginbottom, to whom the establishment of the Library is largely due, Mr. Heginbottom having left a sum of £500, which was to go to the Mechanics' Institution, if a Free Library was not founded in five years. The collection of books dedicated to the public includes over 2,000 volumes, purchased with this bequest, and 1,000 volumes presented by Mr. Hugh Mason, M.P., the rest being presented by private persons and societies in the neighbourhood. The Library opened with 3,900 volumes, which are to be used, at present, only upon the premises. After the Library had been declared open, a public meeting was held in the large assembly room, at which addresses were delivered by the Mayor, Mr. Councillor Parry, Chairman of the Free Library Committee, Rev. Thomas Green, Mr. Alderman Heginbottom, the Rev. J. D. Kelly, &c., &c. The Librarian is Mr. Naylor.

CAMBRIDGE.—In a report of the Library Syndicate of the University of Cambridge, dated March 1, 1882, the following recommendations are made to the Senate:—1. That a sum of £3,500 instead of £3,000 be annually contributed from the University Chest towards the maintenance of the Library; 2. That the debt on the general fund of the Library, amounting to £1,181 4s. 2d., be discharged from the University Chest by instalments; 3. That certain increases be made in the rates of increase in the salaries of the library assistants; 4. That the Library be open six hours on Saturday instead of four hours only, as heretofore. In the discussion on the report, which took place on March 14 (see *Cambridge University Reporter*, March 21), the only point touched upon was the



question of keeping open the Library two extra hours weekly, and the consequent hardship to the staff.

CARDIFF.—The new building, which is intended to accommodate the Free Library, Museum, and Science and Art Schools, will be opened on the 1st of June with an imposing ceremony. The building has cost about £12,000, and is admirably arranged for its purpose. The late Mr. W. Menelaus has presented £10,000 worth of pictures, to "form an Art Gallery, or at least to commence one." Over 1,000 volumes of books have just been presented by a retired county court judge, Mr. Thomas Falconer, who resides in the neighbourhood.

CARLISLE.—Dr. Robert Elliott, the Medical Officer of Health for Carlisle, has called the attention of the local library authorities to the possibility of scarlet fever being spread by means of books lent to persons sick and convalescent of the disease. He suggests that by the aid of lists of the books circulated the course of the fever might be traced.

EDINBURGH.—LITERARY INSTITUTE.—At a meeting of the subscribers, held on the 29th of March, the directors proposed that a committee of the subscribers should be appointed to co-operate with the directors, in order to maintain and extend the work of the Institute. The Institute was started as a limited liability company, and many of the original shareholders have died or removed from the south side, so that the shares were now in comparatively few hands. There was a danger of the Institute not being kept up unless it were more largely supported. It was agreed to adopt the suggestion, and a committee of twenty-six appointed, including three ladies.

EDINBURGH.—PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTION.—The annual meeting of the members was held on the 28th March in the Library. The Directors reported a surplus of £83 18s. on the year's income of £2,159 7s. 5d.; 574 new books had been added to this Library, exclusive of 109 vols. purchased to replace worn out or missing volumes. The new catalogue contained a list of 24,000 volumes. Treasurer Harrison observed that during the whole 36 years of its existence the Institution had been carried on successfully upon the lines on which it was established. The Institution had offered to its members a news-room, a reading-room, a library, and a course of lectures by the best men to be found within the four seas, at a time when any one of these promises might have appeared rather too much to make in the whole subscription; yet the Institution had been carried on entirely through the guinea subscriptions of its members, and it had moreover saved upwards of £4,000 in money. He did not think that in Great Britain, or anywhere else, anything similar had been done, or done with anything like the same success. Mr. Gladstone was re-elected President of the Institution.

LIVERPOOL.—An interesting ceremony took place at the Free Public Library on Friday, the 31st March, in connection with the appointment of Mr. John Frowde as Librarian to the Free Library

about to be established in Barrow-in-Furness. Mr. Frowde has been an assistant at the Liverpool Free Public Library for eleven years, and, in token of the esteem and respect felt for him, his colleagues in the Institution met and presented him with a gold watch chain and a handsome illuminated address, this latter being the work of his junior colleague, Mr. J. H. Quinn. Mr. Cowell, in making the presentation, addressed a few well-chosen words of the general feeling of appreciation of the many and valuable qualities possessed by Mr. Frowde, to which the latter suitably replied.

LONDON.—BRITISH MUSEUM.—A notice has been issued by Mr. Bond, Principal Librarian, announcing that in the reading-room the electric light will be continued during the month of April, so that readers can remain till 8 p.m. From the 1st May to the 1st December the closing time will be 7 p.m., and during the remainder of the year 8 p.m. The galleries will be open to the public every day in the year, except Christmas Day and Good Friday.

LONDON.—LONDON INSTITUTION.—Mr. James Macdonald Horthburgh, M.A. Oxon, senior master of modern subjects at Radley College, has been chosen, out of 44 candidates, to succeed Mr. Nicholson as principal librarian and superintendent of the London Institution. Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole, B.A. Oxon, the Orientalist, stood next, and after him Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, librarian of the Leeds Library. No one over 40 years of age was allowed to compete, but these three gentlemen were all under 29.

PARIS.—It is announced from Paris that, in order to guard as far as possible against the danger of fire, the authorities of the Bibliothèque Nationale are about completely to isolate that building, with its valuable manuscripts and books, from the surrounding houses. The cost of this measure will be 3,200,000 francs. Many occupiers of houses in the Rue Vivienne and the Rue Colbert will be compelled in consequence to quit their residences in July next, when the work will be carried out.

READING.—The Free Public Library Committee have invited applications for the office of Librarian for the Free Public Library about to be established. Applications were to be sent to the town clerk by the 12th of April. We notice that the Committee limited the number of testimonials which might be sent to three, and that they invited the applicants to name their own salary.

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Mr. Edward Edwards proposes to publish a second edition of his "Memoirs of Libraries," for subscribers only. It is to be in three volumes, and the price of each volume will be £1 12s. Much of the matter contained in the first edition will be omitted, especially the accounts of ancient libraries, and a good deal of merely documentary matter. The strictly narrative portions will be extended, and new chapters will be added. The whole will be thoroughly revised, and some new illustrations will be added. Mr. Edwards' prospectus contains a "Chronological Note of the Author's Chief

Labours and Writings (up to 1870, exclusive) on the History and Organisation of Libraries, Public and Private."

Mr. Cotgreave has now registered what he calls his "Long-Reacher," which was exhibited at our March Monthly Meeting. It is especially designed to save time and labour in taking down and replacing books upon high shelves in libraries and booksellers' shops, though it may be applied to many other purposes.

Mr. W. A. Cotton has published in his book on "Bromsgrove: Its History and Antiquities," a list of the books (100 vols. in number) in the Bromsgrove Church Library, which has been reprinted in full by the *Bibliographer*. To be useful, however, such lists should be more carefully prepared than that in question, which abounds in every conceivable fault of cataloguing. The books themselves are not of any special interest.

We have received from the compiler, Herr P. E. Richter, a List of the Additions to the Royal Public Library at Dresden, for 1881. It consists of an alphabetical part, with very full "systematic" indexes in twenty-six classes, and the whole is very carefully done.

The *Harvard University Bulletin* for January, besides University intelligence and the list of accessions to the Library, contains another instalment of Mr. Seudder's elaborate "Bibliography of Fossil Insects." The present instalment chiefly consists of a list of Mr. Seudder's own contributions to the subject.

The January *Bulletin of the Boston Public Library* contains an extensive list of additions to the various departments of the Library. The Bibliography of the Renaissance concludes with "Part IV.—Biography." A new and enlarged List of Indexes to Periodicals in the Library is also printed, and the number concludes with the first instalment of books and articles, &c., on copyright and kindred subjects to be found in the Library.

#### LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Catalogue of the Books in the Cheltenham Library. Fourth Edition. By Henry Basevi, *Colonel, Retired List*. Cheltenham, 1882. 8vo, pp. iv.—151.

A very neatly printed catalogue on the dictionary plan. Works of fiction have been excluded from the body of the catalogue and relegated to the appendix, a plan not without practical advantages in the case of a circulating library. The catalogue embraces over 11,000 volumes.

Leeds Public Library. Catalogue of the Contents of Section N, Poetry and Dramatic Literature. James Yates. Leeds, January, 1882. 8vo, pp. 58. Price 3d.

This catalogue includes 942 volumes. The contents of collected editions are set out, and the stores of the library exhibited under such main heads as "Ballads," "Drama," "Poems."

Leicester. The Tenth Annual Report of the Free Library Committee. Leicester, 1881. 8vo, pp. 32.

During the year ending April 9, 1881, the issues from the Reference Depart-

ment were 29,456, as compared with 17,831 in the previous year. In the Lending Department, on the other hand, the issues fell from 174,456 in the previous year to 158,346, a decrease for which the Committee are unable to account. The total number of volumes in the library is 20,193, exclusive of the local collection (527 volumes). The rate (one halfpenny) produced £777 4s. Besides various tables, &c., the report includes the additions to the Leicestershire Department for the year.

**Liverpool.** Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library, Museum, and Walker Art Gallery of the City of Liverpool. Liverpool, 1882. 8vo, pp. 27.

The number of volumes issued in the Reference Library was 828,525, besides the constant use of about 200 volumes of works of reference, of the use of which no account is kept. The number of volumes added during the year was 2,372, making the total number of volumes in the Reference Library 74,830. In the Lending Libraries the total issues were 423,051 volumes, 322,973 consisting of Prose Fiction. With the Reference and Lending Departments there is a small decrease from last year's issues. The number of volumes in the Lending Libraries is now 43,979. The Lecture season was very successful. The Report affords no financial information.

**Norwich.** Annual Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council. Norwich [1882]. 8vo, pp. 11.

The issues in the Lending Department were 32,836, and the attendance at the Reading-room has been registered four times daily, the number being 45,206. The number of volumes in stock is 6,300. The rate produced £937 10s.; of the expenditure, £274 19s. 6d. was for interest and instalment of loan.

**Plymouth.** Fifth Report of the Free Public Library and News-rooms Committee. Plymouth, 1882. 8vo, pp. 32.

The number of volumes in use in all departments was 162,048, being 9,803 less than in 1880. The decrease was principally in fiction and juvenile works. The Library now contains over 14,000 volumes and pamphlets. The amount received from the Corporation was £700. The Committee hope that the grant for the current year may be the full equivalent of a penny rate. The Report includes tables and library additions.

**Rotherham.** First Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library. Rotherham, 1881. 8vo, pp. 12.

The issues for the year were 45,609, and the number of ticket-holders 2,810. The number of volumes in the Library is 2,862. A list of the year's additions is appended. There is no financial information.

**Stoke-upon-Trent.** Third Annual Report of the Public Free Library Committee, 1880-81. Stoke [1881]. 8vo, pp. 19.

The issues for the year ending November 6th, 1881, were 33,269, in the Lending Department, and 2,692 in the Reading-room. The number of volumes in the Library is 6,427, of which 1,043 are works of reference. The amount received from the overseers was £295 19s. 2d., and £123 10s. 6d. was received in subscriptions and donations.

**Walsall.** Twenty-third Annual Report of the Free Library Committee, 1880-81. Walsall, 1881. 8vo, pp. 15.

The issues show a considerable increase over the previous year, the total issues being, at the Chief Library, 63,443, and from the Bloxwich branch 7,611. The number of volumes in the Library is 11,135.

**Wigan.** Free Public Library. Fourth Annual Report of the Librarian. March 9th, 1882. Wigan, 1882. 8vo, pp. 25.

The year has been one of steady progress. The issues in the Lending Depart-

ment have been 58,746, in the Reference Department 6,160. The number of volumes in the Library is now 25,332. The attendance on Sundays in the News-room and Reference Department remains about the same. Lists of Societies and Transactions represented in the Library, and of the more important works in the Reference Department, are appended to the Report. There is no financial report.

**Philadelphia.** Fifty-ninth Annual Report of the Mercantile Library Company of Philadelphia. Philadelphia, 1882. 8vo, pp. 32.

This Library claims as "a marked peculiarity from the first that the book-cases have been kept open, and every member has had the privilege of going directly to the shelves to make his own selection of books for reading and study, an advantage which is enjoyed in no other large library in the world." The number of members and subscribers on 1 Jan., 1882, was 5,571. The number of volumes in the Library was 143,135, exclusive of 8,782 unbound pamphlets. The circulation for the year was 153,186, the number of visits to the rooms 348,426, of which 28,000 were upon Sundays. The year's income was \$44,383.48. The Library has its own bindery.

#### NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

**The English Catalogue of Books for 1881**, containing a complete list of all the books published in Great Britain and Ireland in the year 1881, with their sizes, prices, and publishers' names; also of the principal books published in the United States of America, with the addition of an Index to Subjects. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle and Rivington, 1882. 8vo, pp. 107. Price 5s.

This catalogue scarcely answers to the promise of its title-page, as it is only an index to the List of books which appears every fortnight in the *Publishers' Circular*. But as it is the only annual catalogue of English literature, we ought to be thankful for it, and wait hopefully for the good time when we shall be as well supplied as the Germans.

**Trübner's Catalogue of Dictionaries and Grammars of the principal Languages and Dialects of the World.** Second Edition, considerably enlarged and revised, with an Alphabetical Index [edited by Mr. Hiersemann]. London: Trübner and Co., 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.-170.

A book so useful to the librarian, philological student, and bookseller, should soon be out of print again; we will, therefore, make one or two small suggestions in view of a new edition. In the first place, the list of works on Greek and Latin is somewhat meagre; under the latter, one misses Corradini's edition of Forcellini, the great work of Freund, and the popular, although less important, works of Dr. Smith. Under English, the Dictionary of Americanisms of Bartlett only finds a place in the form of its obsolete second edition, 1859; a fourth and enlarged edition came out in 1877. Davies's Supplementary English Dictionary, 1881, is absent; and a supplementary part of 92 pages to Stratmann's Dictionary appeared in 1881, and is not mentioned. The excellent Magyar dictionary of Bizonfy is not to be found; this omission is all the more noteworthy from the fact that it is first dictionary of the English and Hungarian languages. Fabretti's "*Corpus Inscriptionum Italicarum antiquioris aevi*" is duly recorded under Etruscan, but the three supplements which have appeared are not noticed.

**Chap-books of the Eighteenth Century, with Fac-similes, Notes, and Introduction.** By John Ashton. London: Chatto and Windus, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. xvi.-486. Price 7s. 6d.

The eighteenth century was the golden age of Chap-books, and those who are interested in this literature will find Mr. Ashton's book one of considerable practical value. Its bibliographical usefulness is much increased by many woodcuts of title pages and a list of Chap-books issued from the chief factory of such publications.

**Bibliographie général et raisonnée du droit Belge : relevé de toutes les publications juridiques parues depuis 1814 réunies, mises en ordre et annotées pour la rédaction des Pandectes Belges** Par Edmond Picard et Ferdinand Larcier. Bruxelles : F. Larcier, 1882. Livr. I. La. 8vo, pp. xiii.-15-300. Price 5s.

This important legal bibliography will form a volume of 1,100 pages, and will be completed in three livraisons. The work is to be in three divisions ; the first comprising works, articles in periodicals, collections, &c., under names of authors ; the second containing anonymous publications, reports of commissions, &c. and the third consisting of an alphabetical index of subjects. The titles are given at length, with a few notes.

**La curiosité littéraire et bibliographique : articles littéraires, extraits et analyses d'ouvrages curieux, notices de livres rares, anecdotes, etc.** 2<sup>e</sup> série. Paris, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 240. Price 10s.

Futile gossip ; but unfortunately this manner of writing is not uncommon among Bibliographers.

**Catalogus bibliothecae Danteae Dresdensis a Philaethe B. Rege Ioanne Saxoniae conditae auctae relictæ.** Edidit Julius Petzholdt. Lipsiæ : in ædibus B. G. Teubneri, 1882. 8vo, pp. vi.-126. Price 6s.

The excellent metrical translation into German of Dante's *Divina Commedia*, published by the late King John of Saxony, under the pseudonym of Philaethes, is well known ; this is a catalogue of the valuable Dante library left by the king, and which has been added to by his son, Duke George. The name of the compiler is a guarantee of the excellency of the catalogue, which is in classified order. The titles are given at length, with occasional notes in Latin.

**Das antike Buchwesen in seinem Verhältniss zur Litteratur, mit Beiträgen zur Textgeschichte des Theokrit, Catull, Properz und anderer Autoren.** Von Theodor Birt. Berlin : Hertz, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.-518. Price 12s.

This is the most valuable contribution to bibliography proper which has appeared for many a day. It abounds in new and ingenious views, worked out with rare learning and laboriousness, and is full of interest to the bibliographer, the literary historian, and the classical scholar.

**Biographisches Schriftsteller-Lexikon der Gegenwart, unter Mitwirkung namhafter Schriftsteller : die bekanntesten Zeitgenossen auf dem Gebiet der Nationallitteratur aller Völker mit Angabe ihrer Werke.** Von Fr. Bornmüller. Leipzig : Bibliogr. Institut, 1882. 8vo, pp. vi.-800. Price 7s. 6d.

This follows in the steps of the excellent "*Dizionario degli scrittori contemporanei, da Angelo de Gubernatis, 1879.*" But why cannot each country publish a thoroughly trustworthy dictionary of its own living celebrities, instead of the dozens of different "*Men of the Time,*" containing unsatisfactory accounts of the notable persons throughout the world ?



Aarsberetninger og Meddelelser fra det Store Kongelige Bibliothek, udgivne af Chr. Bruun, Bibliothekar. III. Bind 7 Hefte. Kjobenhavn: Gyldendalske Boghandel, 1882. 8vo, pp. clx.-lxxiv., 177-208.

The part in Roman numerals contains statistical information for the financial year 1880-81, and that numbered in Arabic figures is the continuation of the catalogue of the manuscripts.

Verboden boeken, geschriften, couranten, enz. in de 18e eeuw.: eene bijdrage tot de geschiedenis der Haagsche censuur. Door A. J. Servaas van Rooijen. Afl. I. Haarlem: de Graaff, 1882. 8vo, pp. 1-48. Price 3s.

A companion to Drujon's "Catalogue des ouvrages poursuivis, supprimés ou condamnés, 1814-77." It will be completed in six parts.

Mr. A. J. Frost's Report, for 1881, on the Library of the Society of Telegraph Engineers, contains a list of works on lightning, lightning-rods, &c., presented to the Library by Mr. G. J. Symons.

M. René Kerviler has published the first part of a bibliography of the periodical publications of Brittany, in the *Bibliophile Breton*. One chapter will be devoted to each of the five departments of the province; a sixth chapter will deal with works devoted to all or several of the departments. The bibliography is arranged chronologically, with ample notes.

*Revue mensuelle du Bibliophile militaire* is the title of a new Parisian review, which is distributed without charge to all military institutions and libraries.

A bibliographical notice is to be found, in a new edition of the *Discours de la méthode* of Descartes (Paris: Dupont), prepared by Professor Ludovic Carrau.

Herr Karl M. Kertbeny, author of "Handbuch Ungarischer Bibliographie," 1880, died at Budapest on January 23, aged 58 years.

The editor and publisher of the "Gesamt-Verlags-Katalog des Deutschen Buchhandels," Herr Adolf Russell, died at Münster on December 26. The Verlags-Katalog is not yet complete, but the remainder of the manuscript has been left in a state ready for the press.

The bibliography of Russian hagiology has been dealt with by Mr. Nikolai Barsukof, in a recent work, "*Istochniki Russkoi Agiografii*" (Sources of Russian Hagiography).

#### NOTES AND QUERIES.

A REMINISCENCE OF THE LIVERPOOL LIBRARY:—The following is culled from the minute books of this library, and dated 13th of

August, 1799, some forty years after its foundation. The meeting of the committee at which this singular minute was inserted was attended by no less distinguished men than William Roscoe, Dr. Currie, and Dr. Rutter:—"This day, for the first time, the committee met at four o'clock in the afternoon, and, having transacted the necessary business of the library, they dined together at five o'clock, and spent the remainder of the day with harmonious pleasantries. Resolved unanimously, 'That the monthly committee meet henceforward on the second Tuesday in the month at three o'clock, and that they afterwards dine together; that dinner be on the table at four o'clock precisely, and that the bill be called at six o'clock, when such gentlemen as chuse may depart, and such as chuse may club again; that red port be the only wine allowed, and that if any gentleman prefer white wine he pay for it distinct from his share of the general shot; and that all the wine be brought up in the original bottles from the bin, and decanted in the club-room.'" These festive meetings of the committee were held at the Star and Garter Tavern, in Paradise-street.—A. W.

THOMLINSON LIBRARY, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE (MONTHLY NOTES, Vol. iii., p. 8).—We have received from Mr. Haggerston a long and interesting account of this library, which we hope to print in full in an early number.—ED. M. N.

AUTHOR WANTED.—Who was the author of "The Perils of the Nation: An Appeal to the Legislation, the Clergy, and the Higher and Middle Classes. Seeley, London, 1844," "Remedies suggested for some of the Evils which constitute the Perils of the Nation. London, 1844"? I should feel greatly indebted for an answer.—H. W.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### TRAINING OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

SIR,—I believe the Library Association some two or three years ago recommended that the system of having boys apprenticed to Public Libraries should be adopted. I am desirous of ascertaining if, at that or any other time, they have laid down any rules or method for training such apprentices.

I have a son apprenticed to a library for five years, and am anxious to learn what is the proper system of training. It appears to me a very important matter, both in the interests of libraries and librarians, that some systematic training should be carried out. Any information you can give me on the subject will be esteemed a favour by,

Yours, &c.,  
PATERFAMILIAS.

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post free, 3s. 6d.*